

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 29 May 2000
Name of applicant/court: Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: Paddles Volume 6 No 9 September 1999
Other Known Titles: Paddles Vol 6 No 9
Director: Not Applicable
Producer: Not Applicable
Publisher: Clare Gordon
Author: Not Applicable
Format: Booklet
Country of Origin: Australia
Language: English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:
Trailers: Running time:
Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Display Conditions:

That when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown on the front of the package in which the publication is kept
and
That the publication must be publicly displayed only in a sealed package
and
That where the publication is publicly displayed in a package, the package must be made of opaque material.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The booklet entitled *Paddles Volume 6 No 9 September 1999* (also known as *Paddles Vol 6 No 9*) is classified as:

Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.

Paddles Volume 6 No 9 September 1999 is a booklet mainly comprising stories about consensual spanking of buttocks in the context of sexual arousal using a variety of implements. Activity takes place between two persons. There is some sexually explicit text. The publication contains black and white photographs and drawings which focus on spanking buttocks. Photographs tend to be of a passive nature. In presenting spanking in this sexual context the booklet deals with physical conduct of a degrading, dehumanising and demeaning nature as well as physical conduct in which sexual satisfaction is derived from the inflicting and suffering of pain. At times the spanking activity is presented in a strong manner, though such instances occur to a small extent, and, on the whole the booklet presents spanking in a consensual and controlled manner where there is a focus on the sexual response of the participants rather than on depicting or describing suffering and pain.

The Classification Office considers that because of the booklet's focus on the fetish of spanking in the context of sexual arousal the publication is likely to be injurious to the public good unless its availability is restricted to an adult audience.

By virtue of the presentation of spanking in a sexual context, the Classification Office considers it a reasonable limit on freedom of expression as contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, to place an age restriction on this publication.

OFLC Ref: 9902234